



Everglades Youth Conservation Camp



Creating the Next Generation that Cares!sm



The Challenge

We are about to lose *another generation* of hunters, anglers, kayakers, wildlife viewers and outdoors people.

- Over the past decade the proportion of children who spent time in outdoor activities like camping, hunting, and fishing declined by 50%
- Studies show this may be the first generation of Americans to abandon conservation and activities like hiking, hunting and fishing, and that if they don't participate, they are unlikely to support conservation
- This is bad news for the health of the next generation, who might well be the first generation of Americans with a life expectancy shorter than their parents









Our Vision

To provide a statewide network of sustainable places where youth and their families can participate in outdoor activities and safely share experiences that inspire lifelong support for fish and wildlife conservation.



“Creating the Next Generation that Cares!”SM

- Breakthrough approaches for understanding and overcoming the barriers to youth participation in outdoor activities
- Create destinations that are magnets for young people
- Make them *want* to be outside





Program Concepts

- Statewide network of sites, activities and opportunities to reconnect youth with the outdoors
- Keep costs low
 - Leverage existing sites, facilities and programs
 - Leverage local, state and federal government resources through creation of public/private/non-profit partnerships
- Focus
 - Programs/activities that have greatest potential to instill conservation values in kids
 - Keep them coming back to the “wild outdoors”





Hub & Spoke Strategy



- Most locations are within 45 minutes of major urban centers. This will enable us to serve the youth of Florida on a very cost-effective basis

Finance & Management

- FYCCN staffing and funding supported through private and commercial partnerships and private-sector fundraising
- Sustainable model for ongoing financial support, staffing and operations
- Private-sector funding essential to success
 - Cannot build/sustain on government funding alone
 - Must have community “ownership” of the projects to ensure long-term success
- Wildlife Foundation of Florida will manage fundraising and administer, while Keeping Local Funds Local!

Everglades Youth Conservation Camp





**An Historic Palm Beach treasure
Started in the 1960's, rebuilt in
1970, it needs updating now**



Everglades Youth Conservation Camp Today







Everglades Youth Conservation Camp

- FWC re-assumed operations as of June 1, 2014
- Dining hall renovations, new water treatment plant and well, waste water plant upgrades, demo of old structures underway
- FY 14-15 \$483K of annually recurring funds and \$450K one-time capital improvement funding
- 2014 Summer Camp – six weeks, 425 youth
- American Camp Association (ACA) reaccredited with 100% compliance



Everglades Youth Conservation Camp

- The Foundation and raised \$700,000 for the Camp this year
- Plans and designs are underway for a complete update
- We have design and engineering efforts underway, with a August 2015 completion for all plans
- Building will begin Fall of 2015

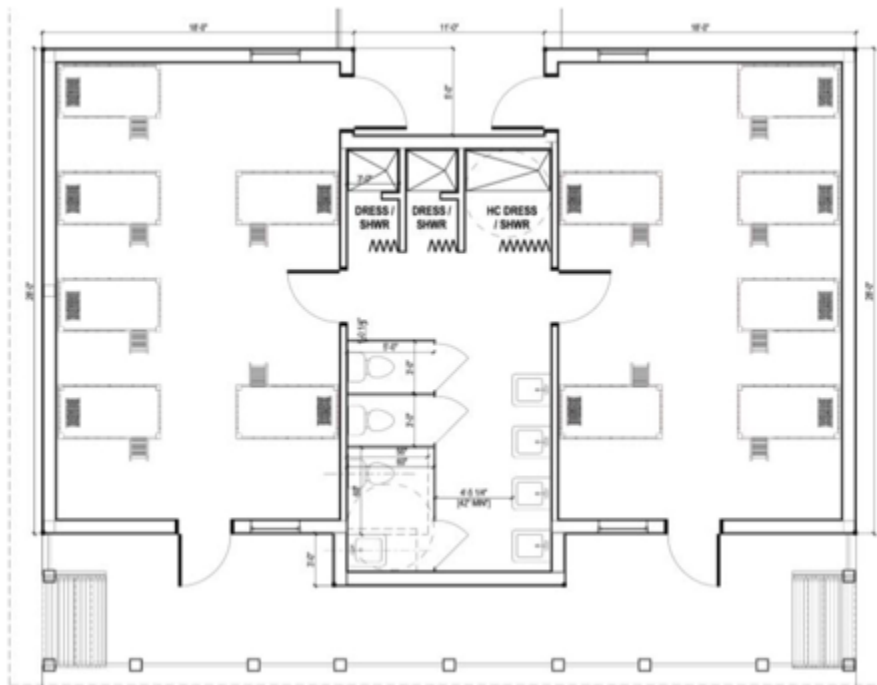




Major Phase 1 Needs

- 10 new cabins
- 2 new bath houses
- First-aid station
- A counselor's cabin
- Museum







Thanks!

www.evergladesyouthcamp.org

